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## Trial on Arms Smuggling Opens Against Ex-Agent

By STUART TAYLOR Jr.

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ALEXANDRIA, Va., Nov. 15 — The first of four scheduled trials of Edwin P. Wilson began here today with a Federal prosecutor asserting that the former American intelligence agent had provided weapons to the Libyan Government in return for money, and a defense lawyer saying Mr. Wilson had been trying to help the Central Intelligence Agency.

"The United States will prove that Edwin Wilson was motivated by greed," specifically his hopes of obtaining a \$22 million contract for weapons and services with the Libyan regime of Col. Muammar el-Qaddafi, Theodore S. Greenberg, the chief prosecutor in the case, said in his opening statement to the jury in Federal District Court.

Herald Price Fahringer, the chief defense lawyer, responded, "Mr. Wilson, in good faith, in dealing with the C.I.A., felt that he had the apparent authority to bring these weapons over there either with or without a license."

He said Mr. Wilson, who had left Government service as an intelligence agent to become an international businessman, was in touch with top officials of the intelligence agency and that his "deal" with the Libyans was to trade an M-16 automatic rifle and some pistols for Soviet military equipment and intelligence information sought by the C.I.A.

### Former Employees Testify

The tall, stern-looking Mr. Wilson, wearing a three-piece gray suit, sat impassively this afternoon as three of his former employees and a one-time friend testified against him.

Mr. Wilson, who is 54 years old, is being held in lieu of bonds totaling \$60 million. In addition to the trial here, he faces one scheduled to begin next Monday in Houston and two cases in Washington set for January, all in connection with charges that he provided weapons and expertise to Libya for terrorist activities. The trial that began today may be concluded by the end of the week, according to lawyers in the case.

This case, with Judge Richard Williams presiding, is based on an eight-count indictment charging Mr. Wilson with heading a conspiracy to smuggle three pistols to Libyan agents in Bonn and with smuggling an M-16 rifle to Libya in 1979, in violation of Federal regulations covering the transportation and export of firearms.

### Could Test a 1980 Law

Prosecutors have said that one of the pistols was used in the assassination of a Libyan dissident in Bonn in May 1980.

This trial may provide the first test of the constitutionality of the Classified Information Procedures Act of 1980. Last week Judge Oren R. Lewis, also of the Alexandria Federal District Court, used the law as a basis for pretrial rulings that barred Mr. Wilson's attorneys from presenting certain classified Government documents as evidence in his defense.

Judge Lewis said the material, discussed in closed hearings before him as provided by the statute, was irrelevant. Mr. Fahringer has challenged the constitutionality of the statute, and said today that he might ask Judge Williams for permission to use some classified information that the lawyer contends was not covered by the pretrial rulings.

Mr. Fahringer is also seeking to call William Clark, President Reagan's national security adviser, and other top Government officials as witnesses.

### Shipping of Arms Described

This afternoon, prosecutors called nine witnesses to testify about the mechanics of the purchase and transportation of the four guns. Among the witnesses were the three people who said they had worked in the United States and London for Mr. Wilson's varied enterprises in 1979 while he was in Tripoli, the Libyan capital.

Reginald H. Slocombe, who said he

handled international shipping for the ex-C.I.A. agent out of an office in a Washington townhouse, testified that Mr. Wilson directed him to obtain three pistols from another employee at Mr. Wilson's farm in Upperville, Va., in the spring of 1979.

He said he concealed the weapons in a tool box and took them, without obtaining the required export license, to West Germany, where he delivered them late one night to a Libyan intelligence agent near the Libyan Embassy in Bonn.

Mr. Slocombe said that later, in May 1979, Mr. Wilson instructed him to buy an M-16 rifle from Paul Cyr, a Wilson friend in Washington. Mr. Slocombe testified that he concealed the rifle in a footlocker that he then took to Amsterdam. He said he delivered the baggage receipt for the footlocker to Mr. Wilson, who told him he was planning to take the rifle to Libya.